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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1944.

D. A. McCracken, M.D.

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1944.

Area (in acres)	3,777
Population 1921 (census)	13,511
„ 1931	14,247
„ 1944	15,140
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1921 (census) ...	3,076
„ „ „ „ „ 1931 „ ...	3,827
„ „ „ „ „ 1944 ...	4,800
Rateable value 1944 (April)	£87,354
Product of a penny rate, 1944	£349

Live Births.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	241	127	114	
Illegitimate	37	20	17	18.36
	278	147	131	

Stillbirths.

Legitimate	9	5	4	
Illegitimate				0.55
	9	5	4	

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Deaths (all causes)	202	102	100	13.34

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	nil.
Other puerperal causes	nil.

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births :

Legitimate	53.94
Illegitimate	54.00
Total	53.88
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	22
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

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Rushden Urban District Council.

Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee :

MESSRS. A. H. BAILEY (Chairman), R. W. DAVIES, J.P. (Chairman of the Council), J. ALLEN, W. E. CAPON, T. W. COX, J. E. DILKS, MRS. A. U. MUXLOW, J. ROE and W. J. SAWFORD.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

DAVID ANDREW McCracken, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health ;

Deputy School Medical Officer ;

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Towcester Rural District Council.

Medical Officer, Kettering Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.

Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector, etc.

FREDERICK SAMUEL FIELDING PIPER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

also holds appointment of :

Sanitary Inspector (temporary), Borough of Higham Ferrers.

RUSHDEN.

August, 1945.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. MUXLOW AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1944. The report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 49/45.

The vital statistics are generally satisfactory. The birth rate of 18.40 shows a slight improvement of 0.30 on the rate of 18.10 per 1,000 of population for 1943. The death rate of 13.30 is 2.20 per 1,000 in excess of the rate of 11.10 for the previous year. The birth rate for 1944 was 5.10 per thousand in excess of the death rate.

The sanitary circumstances of the district have been well maintained but a water famine took place during the latter part of the summer. I have described in some detail the water undertaking so far as it effects the town, and have made some suggestions regarding the future of the supply. In spite of the doubtful nature of the temporary water supplies obtained during the period of crisis, the water delivered to the consumers was of a high bacteriological quality. Much credit is due to the Clerk, the Engineer and the Manager at Sywell for the effective steps taken in conjunction with the Engineering Inspectors of the Ministry of Health in obtaining supplementary supplies of water.

The incidence of zymotic diseases gave no cause for anxiety. The year 1944 was not a measles year, but the incidence of whooping cough showed a definite increase on the previous year.

I acknowledge with a sense of gratitude the support I continue to receive from the Health and Sanitary Committee and the assistance and advice afforded me by the executive officers of the Council and the Water Board.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. McCracken,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area. The area of the district is 3,777 acres.

Population. The Registrar-General has estimated the resident population for 1944 to have been 15,140. During the war years the resident population increased as a result of the town being scheduled as a reception area for evacuees who were sent to the town from the Greater London and East Coast areas under the Government Evacuation Scheme. The pre-war population in 1938 of 15,090 increased to 17,600 in 1941 and thereafter diminished steadily to 15,140 in 1944.

Death Rate. The total number of deaths assigned to the district after adjustment for inward and outward transferable deaths by the Registrar-General was 202 as compared with 172 in 1943. The death rate based on the estimated population was 13.34 as compared with 11.11 for 1943. The rate recorded was 2.14 in excess of that for England and Wales. The following table shows the death rates for the quinquennium 1940-44, together with comparative rates for the Administrative County and England and Wales as far as they are available. The 'comparability factors' for the standardisation of the death rates are not available for 1941-44 since the magnitude and variety of local population movements and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths have together frustrated the attempt to secure comparability between local death rates by the use of Area Comparability Factors. The preparation and issue of such factors have been suspended under present conditions.

Year	<i>Rushden</i>				<i>Standardised Death Rate</i>		
	Total	Male	Female	Recorded Rate	<i>Rushden</i>	<i>Administrative County</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1940	233	199	114	14.05	13.49	11.30	14.30
1941	185	102	83	10.51	*	11.94†	12.90
1942	163	82	81	10.03	*	11.02†	11.60
1943	172	84	88	11.11	*	12.29†	12.10
1944	202	102	100	13.34	*	*	11.60

* Not available.

† Recorded rate.

A list of the causes of death classified according to the International List of Causes of Death, 1938, is given in Table No. 1, page 26, whilst the history of some of the principal causes of death for 1929-44 is shown in Table No. 2, page 27. As compared with 1943, tuberculosis, diseases of the circulatory and respiratory systems show some increase in the rates. On the other hand, there has been a decrease in the number of deaths ascribed to cancer. The increase in the death rate is partially accounted

for by the large increase in the number of deaths certified as being due to diseases of the circulatory system. The total number of deaths from the latter causes totalled 101 in 1944, as compared with 51 in 1943. An examination of the Registrars' Returns shows that twenty-four persons between 70-80 years of age, fourteen between 80-90 years, and seven over 90 years, were certified as having died from circulatory diseases.

Birth Rate. The number of live births assigned to the district was 278 as compared with 281 in 1943. The rate per 1,000 of population was 18.36 and is the highest rate recorded since 1921. This rate is 0.76 in excess of that of England and Wales. The trend of the birth rate for the period 1897-1944 is shown in Table No. 3, page 28. The local birth rates together with those for the Administrative County and the country as a whole for the period 1940-44 were as follows :

			Birth Rate, 1940-44.				
			1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Rushden	...	...	12.42	10.90	15.45	18.14	18.36
Administrative County			13.94	13.51	16.66	17.91	
England and Wales	...		14.60	14.20	15.80	16.50	17.60

Stillbirth Rate. The number of stillbirths registered was nine as compared with three in 1943. The rate per thousand total live and stillbirths was 32.05 as compared with 47.45 in the previous year. The history of the rate for 1934-44 is given in Table No. 4, page 29, together with rates for illegitimacy and masculinity of birth.

Illegitimate Birth Rate. Thirty-seven illegitimate live births (20 males, 17 females) were assigned to the town as compared with fifteen in 1943. This is equivalent to a rate of 133.09 per thousand live births and is the highest rate recorded during the war period. No illegitimate stillbirths were recorded.

Maternal Mortality. It is very gratifying to record that no deaths were ascribed to puerperal causes or other conditions associated with childbirth. No deaths from puerperal causes have been recorded amongst the native population since 1938.

Infant Mortality. The number of infants who died under one year of age was fifteen (8 males, 7 females). Two males were illegitimate. The infant mortality rate of 53.90 per 1,000 live births was very disappointing as compared with the national rate of 46. Seven infants died under one month from causes which are unavoidable. The remaining eight deaths give an avoidable infant mortality rate of 28.00 per 1,000 live births. The total rates for 1940-44 together with the number of deaths recorded were :

Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Rushden ...	77.67(16)	54.18(11)	23.90(6)	28.47(8)	53.90(15)
Administrative					
County	40.20	48.10	34.50	40.40	
England and					
Wales	50.00	55.00	40.00	49.00	46.00

Neonatal Mortality. This sub-division of the infant mortality rate includes all infants who die within twenty-eight days of independent existence. Seven of the fifteen infants who died in the first year of life were neonatal deaths. The rate per thousand live births together with the nett number of deaths for 1940-44 were :

Deaths under one month per 1,000 live births.

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
27.71(5)	24.63(5)	24.54(6)	21.30(6)	25.10(7)

A classification of the causes of death of all infants under one year is given in Table No. 5, page 29.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years). Two infant deaths were recorded from this condition. The last occasion on which any deaths from this cause were recorded was in 1940.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities. The laboratory work associated with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases is carried out by the Bacteriologist of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Northampton General Hospital. A total of thirty-eight specimens were submitted for examination. The annual cost of this service, which is unlimited as to the number of specimens examined, is five guineas.

Diphtheria Antitoxin. A supply of antitoxin continues to be maintained at the Council Offices in accordance with the provisions of the Diphtheria Antitoxin (Outside London) Order, 1910, and is available free of charge to medical practitioners for use in the town.

Ambulance Services. The Rushden and District Ambulance Association maintains two motor ambulances, both of which are garaged at the Lightstrung Motor Company's garage in Church Street. Most of the work is carried out with a Ford V-8 ambulance which was purchased in 1943, whilst a Morris ambulance is maintained as a reserve vehicle. The service is adequate for the needs of the town. The ambulances carried out 359 removals involving a total mileage of 11,611 miles. Cases of infectious disease are removed to hospital by the Joint Isolation Hospital's ambulance.

Nursing in the Home. The Rushden Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Northamptonshire Nursing Association, employs three nurses, all of whom are State Registered Nurses and State Certified Midwives. The Nurses' Home is situated in Griffith Street (Tel. No. 587). The area covered by the association includes Higham Park, Newton Bromshold as well as the town. The total number of confinements attended by the nurses was 190 which is the actual number of births registered in the town. In sixty cases they acted as midwives and as maternity nurses in 130 cases. In addition they attended 139 general nursing cases and made a total of 8,678 visits in 1944.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. The Child Welfare Centre was established by the County Council in conjunction with a local Voluntary Committee in 1920. The Medical Officer is an Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and she is assisted by two Health Visitors. The work of the centre continues to grow in strength and meets at the Independent Wesleyan Church Schools in Queen Street at 2 p.m. every Wednesday.

Diphtheria immunisation is carried out on the first Wednesday of each month. The voluntary committee who undertake the social aspects of the welfare work as distinct from preventive medicine, carry out the distribution on behalf of the Ministry of Food of dietary supplements, such as orange juice, vitaminised oil and vitamin capsules.

An Antenatal Clinic which is also staffed by the County Council and the County Nursing Association Assistant Superintendent holds clinics every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m., at the aforementioned premises.

A diphtheria immunisation clinic is held at the Alfred Street School by the County School Medical Service on the first Saturday of each month at 9.45 a.m.

The Manfield Orthopædic Clinic which acts as a local out-patient department of the Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, Northampton, holds its clinics every alternate Friday at the Independent Wesleyan Church Schools.

Hospitals. Apart from the provision of physio-therapy apparatus provided by voluntary subscription at the Cottage Hospital, no material changes have taken place in the hospital facilities for local residents. The precept levied by the Eastern Northants Joint Isolation Hospital Board for the year was £454.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply. The water supply to the town is provided by a Joint Water Board created under the terms of the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board Act, 1902 (2 Ewd. 7. Ch. XII) and in whom, with the exception of a few sections, were vested the powers of the Higham Ferrers Water Act, 1900. The latter Act gave statutory authority to a private company to acquire land and to construct works, but the powers were never implemented. The Act of 1902 made provision *inter alia* for the construction of waterworks at Sywell and the transfer of the shallow wells sunk in the sand measures at Wymington in 1893 from the District Council to the Joint Water Board.

The statutory area of supply comprises the Borough of Higham Ferrers, the Rushden Urban District and the Parish of Wymington in Bedford Rural District. The population of the statutory area amounts to some 19,458 persons. Of the estimated population of 15,490 persons resident in Rushden, 14,794 enjoy a piped water supply ; 268 persons are dependent on stand pipes, whilst 428 persons are not provided with water by the Board. The amount of water normally supplied to the statutory area per 24 hours is some 442,000 gallons, whilst in addition, bulk supplies are provided for Irchester (including Podington), Wollaston, Great Doddington and Mears Ashby Hall. The total bulk supply provided for the latter districts amounts to some 92,500 gallons per 24 hours. No bulk supplies are received by the Board.

The water supply is obtained from three sources, Wymington wells, the impounding reservoir at Sywell and a shallow well at Hardwater Crossing.

The Wymington wells are located about half a mile N.W. of the village of Wymington, in the Bedford Rural District and were sunk by the Local Government Board in 1893. The four wells are in the sand measures and their depth varies from 26 to 31 feet. They are brick lined and have a diameter of 7' 6". These wells supplied Rushden with water before the construction of the Sywell works and originally had a yield of 100,000 gallons per day. The wells are now only capable of yielding 35,000 to 40,000 gallons per day at their best and must now be relegated to that of an auxiliary supply. These works now only supply the village of Wymington. The machinery consists of one gas (Town gas) engine and one three-throw pump. Formerly there were two gas engines and two three-throw pumps, but they became worn out and the Board decided some years ago to install a second-hand gas engine and from the

parts of the two pumps to make one serviceable unit. These works are only used about once a week to supply the village of Wymington. If a breakdown occurred, the village could be supplied from Rushden reservoir. A service reservoir of 262,500 gallons is provided and this is connected to the Rushden reservoir by an eight inch pipe.

The Sywell works, which were opened in July, 1906, consist of an impounding reservoir, slow sand filters, clear water tank and pumping machinery. The reservoir, which is fed by rainfall and springs, is situated at from about 2 miles S.E. of Sywell, in Wellingborough Rural District, to 2 miles N.E. of the same place. The gathering ground is arable, pasture and woodland, and has an area of 1,747 acres. The reservoir is in the Upper Esturine Clay, Lower Esturine Series and Northampton Sand overlying the Upper Lias Clay. The area of land owned by the Board amounts to 133 acres 2 roods 8 poles. Compensation water to the volume of 100,000 gallons per day has to be provided for a brook course in the valley where the reservoir is situate. The reservoir when full normally impounds 236,000,000 gallons, but at present this figure is somewhat reduced due to deposits of sand, gravel, etc., which have collected over a period of years. The deposits are some eight feet in depth particularly in the limb of the reservoir which receives the main feeder. The top water area of the reservoir is 68.5 acres and the level is 261' O.D. The water is drawn off by a pen-stock tower which is provided with five valves. The first draw-off valve is 257' above O.D., and the bottom valve 266' above O.D. The water is gravitated to three open slow sand filters which have a total superficial area of 2,016 square yards and 3 feet in depth. The rate of filtration is 4" per hour. The filtered water passes from the filters to a covered circular clear water tank of 150,000 gallons capacity and thence to the pump well. The water, which is treated with chloramine, is then pumped into the eleven inch rising main by a 110 B.H.P. Crompton Parkinson centrifugal electrical pump which has a maximum capacity of 33,000 gallons per hour. The pumping machinery is in duplicate and the electrical energy is obtained from the high tension grid through a transformer. The rising main, which is 10.5 miles long, delivers the water into the main service reservoir adjoining the Bedford Road on the S.E. aspect of the town. In its course from Sywell to Rushden the rising main is joined by an eight inch main coming from the Hardwater Crossing works. The service reservoir is constructed of mass concrete and has a capacity of 286,436 gallons. The top water level is 337.50' O.D. and the draw-off level 225.50' O.D. Rushden and Higham Ferrers is supplied under constant pressure by gravitation. In addition to supplying the statutory area from the service reservoir, the Board supply, in bulk, Wollaston, Great Doddington, Irchester and Mears Ashby Hall from the rising main.

The source at Hardwater Crossing was opened in 1939 and was provided by the Board following the drought in 1933-34 when, due

to low rainfall, the supply to the town was intermittent during part of the year. The well which is sunk some 15' deep in the Nene Gravels is brick lined. The original Diesel oil engine and pump installed were replaced in June, 1944, by a 72 H.P. electrical motor and centrifugal pump capable of delivering 30,000 gallons per hour. The electrical energy is obtained through a transformer from the high tension supply. Since the potential rate of pumping was in excess of the flow into the well the rate of collection was increased by laying two 18" earthenware feeder drains in the gathering ground at a depth of some 15'. These alterations in the pumping machinery and the improvement in the method of gathering water from the gravels, together with emergency supplies, undoubtedly tided the population over a water famine which must be unique in the history of the town. In spite of wartime difficulties of supply, once the decisions were made the new machinery was provided quickly and the work of installation carried out expeditiously. The water, which is chlorinated, is filtered under pressure in two 8' diameter pressure filters, which have a total area of 100 square feet, at a rate of 100 gallons per square foot per hour. The eight inch main from these works joins the rising main from Sywell. The yield of this well was put severely to the test during the period when the Sywell reservoir was, for practical purposes, empty, and the experience gained has amply justified the policy of the Water Board in sinking the well and providing the new machinery.

Quantity. I reported in 1943 that a drastic reduction in supply was inevitable in view of the low rainfall resulting in the depletion of the stock of water at Sywell and to a lesser degree to the low output of the pump at Hardwater Crossing. Early in the year the supply became critical and it was apparent that there would be great difficulty in maintain a normal supply. In January the supply was restricted to 12 hours normal pressure and 2 hours low pressure and the public were advised by the Board to conserve water. By the end of March the position had become dangerous, the reservoir at Sywell was for practical purposes empty, and the water being pumped into supply was derived mainly from the Hardwater Crossing well, where the pumping machinery was insufficient to meet the full demand. At this stage the assistance of the Ministry of Health and the National Fire Service was enlisted and an emergency supply of water obtained. Water was pumped by heavy duty fire engines from a lake in Overstone Solarium into one of the brook courses which feeds the reservoir. The first period of pumping was carried out continuously, night and day, from 10th April to 21st April, when some 8,500,000 gallons were pumped about half a mile through two emergency six inch fire mains from the lake to the reservoir. The National Fire Service set up an encampment in the Park at the Solarium and were victualled from the Fire Station in Northampton. The fire pumps and personnel were drafted to the park from the East Coast. The owner of

the Solarium allowed free access to the park and made no charge for the water taken from his lake. The water pumped into the reservoir tided the problems over until May when the situation again became dangerous. The National Fire Service again came to the rescue by pumping 17,000,000 gallons of water into the reservoir from a lake near Overstone School. On this occasion, owing to the great difference in the levels of the lake and the reservoir, it was necessary to use one of the lakes in Overstone Solarium as a relaying basin so that double pumping had to be undertaken. The pumping continued without a halt from 23rd May until 16th June. In May, the Board had ordered pumping machinery of larger capacity to replace the existing machinery at Hardwater Crossing and this was installed in June. The town, however, was not provided with a constant supply until the 19th December. The year 1944 was one of continued anxiety for the Board and its officials and the water famine should not be forgotten. The rainfall for 1940-44 was as follows :

		1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Rushden	...	25.92	31.21	22.85	18.72	25.00
Sywell	...	26.76	25.72	20.75	17.35	21.20

The daily consumption of water per head of population was :

		1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Domestic and Mu-						
nicipal Purposes		18.20	19.18	18.85	20.01	15.64
Trade Purposes		3.16	3.05	2.80	3.50	2.74
TOTAL	...	21.36	22.23	21.65	23.51	18.38

Quality. During the period when the town was being supplied with water from emergency sources, complaints were received that it had an objectionable taste and an obnoxious odour when being boiled. The water certainly was unpalatable and tea made with it was foul. The water, however, was at all times in a high state of bacterial purity and there was no danger of communicable disease resulting from its consumption. Owing to the fact that the lake waters were not entirely free from suspicion, the dosage of chlorine was stepped up to the maximum of 0.5 parts per million gallons to ensure that the water being consumed was safe. The chlorine reacted with an abnormal amount of vegetable matter, diatoms and algae present in the lake waters and the obnoxious taste and smell was due to the presence in the piped supply of the by-products of this chemical reaction. Complaints were also received at this time regarding the hardness of the water pumped into the supply from

Hardwater Crossing well. Regular bacteriological examinations of the supply were carried out during the year and also at very frequent intervals during the crisis and on all occasions the reports showed that the water conformed to Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped water supplies. All water supplied by the Board is treated with chlorine at the sources of supply.

The future of the water undertaking and the distribution of supply is one which is closely linked with the natural growth of the district and the present day tendency for the consumption of water to rise. The margin of safety in relation to head of population was low in 1921 and again during 1933-34. The danger limit was passed in 1944 due to a period of low rainfall during three successive years. Whilst the 1944 crisis was overcome with difficulty the salient fact remains that the present undertaking requires to be assessed as to the adequacy of its water resources. It is a strange coincidence that nature allows water undertakers a decade to review their resources and alleviate any deficiency in the undertaking. The anticipated erection of a large number of modern dwelling houses in the post-war era will make further demands on the resources of the Board. The draft planning scheme for the future development of the district makes provision for a population thrice that of the present one. Whilst a population of this magnitude is a long way off there is need now for the water resources and the system of distribution to be reviewed. The distribution in the town is not altogether satisfactory. The 'ribbon developed' Court Estate is without a piped water supply and its inhabitants are dependent on a mediocre supply derived from shallow wells which are not free from the risk of contamination. This estate is practically on the same level as the draw-off from the service reservoir so that unless arrangements are made for the delivery of water by gravity or some other means, this section of the community must be content with their unsatisfactory supply and the inconveniences entailed. The Board are under no statutory obligation to supply water at a level above that at which it can be supplied by gravity from the service reservoir authorised under the Act of 1902.

Finally to summarise briefly the water situation, attention is directed to (1) the adequacy of the sources of supply ; (2) the storage capacity and level of the service reservoir adjoining Bedford Road ; (3) the future use of the pumping main from Sywell and the propriety of laying a new main direct from Hardwater Crossing to a new reservoir in Rushden and (4) the method of distribution and the provision of ring mains to improve the supply in the town having regard to future town planning.

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage. There have been no material changes in the circumstances reported in 1938. The following are copies of analyses of the effluent and crude sewage from the disposal works .

Results of Analyses Expressed in Parts per 100,000.

				<i>Effluent.</i>	<i>Crude Sewage</i>
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...		0.0050	9.00
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...		0.1280	4.00
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...		19.2000	16.00
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...		5.0000	Absent
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F.					
in 4 hours	...	...	...	2.1100	106.10
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...		124.0000	300.00
Suspended matter	...	...	...	4.0000	1710.00
Biological Oxygen Demand in 3 days at 80°F.				0.64	348.00
Nitrite	...	...	...	0.02	—
Date	...	...	...	3:10:44	23:11:44

The average daily flow entering the works was :

Treated : 449,076. Storm : 4,921. Total : 453,898 gallons.

The sewage works are maintained in a good state of repair and are carefully managed. With the natural development of the town the extent of which is indicated by the magnitude of the post-war housing requirement, consideration will require to be given to the adequacy of the works in dealing with an additional load to the daily flow. The town sewers, especially after heavy rainfall, are insufficient in size to cope with the run-off from the streets. I can add no additional observations to those made by my predecessor in his annual report of 1937 when this feature of the sewerage was the subject of comment. A review of the sewage system of the town will require consideration in the very near future and might well be the subject of a post-war programme.

Closest Accommodation. The circumstances remain similar to those reported in 1938.

Disinfection. Full details of the work carried out at the steam disinfecter are given in Table No. 7, page 30. Liquid disinfectants and soap are issued free by the Sanitary Inspector to households for concurrent and terminal disinfection purposes associated with infectious and notifiable diseases including tuberculosis.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. Verminous premises are disinfested by means of proprietary gaseous and liquid preparations. In appropriate cases, skirting boards, etc., are loosened before treatment with 'Zaldecide'. Bedding and clothing are treated with pressure steam.

Swimming Bath. The open-air swimming bath continues to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and bacteriological examinations of the water showed that the filtration and chlorination plant functioned efficiently. During the season 5,422 adults and 19,229 children paid for admission to the bath whilst in addition there were thirty-nine adults and fifty-two children who held season tickets.

Moveable Dwellings : Public Health Act, 1936, S.269. No licences were granted.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order, 1943.
Advice and assistance have been given by the Sanitary Inspector in appropriate cases.

Public Cleansing. There have been no changes in the methods of collection. Much attention has been given to the collection of salvage materials for the war effort. The number of loads and the weight of refuse collected was :

Loads : 1,464 Tons : 3,656

Further details of the sanitary inspections are given in the statistical section.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

In response to the Government's request that preparatory plans be drawn up for post-war housing the Council gave careful consideration to the housing situation in the town. Initial steps were taken early in the year to acquire suitable building sites and an admirable one was obtained for an estate adjoining Higham Road and adjacent to a similar estate proposed to be built by the Borough of Higham Ferrers. In addition, land adjacent to the existing Newton Road housing estate was purchased to complete this estate. The former site has sufficient area for 120 houses and the latter for some 100 houses.

In order to expedite the building of houses in the post-war period, arrangements were made at the behest of the Ministry of Health to prepare sites ready for building operations as soon as circumstances would permit. With this object in view and to make the best use of existing machinery and man power the Council became a member of a local authority group. This group which comprises the Boroughs of Higham Ferrers and Kettering, and Burton Latimer, Corby, Irthlingborough and Raunds Urban Districts, entered into contracts with a large civil engineering firm to carry out the site preparations for all members of the group. Apart from making the size of the contracts sufficiently large to attract firms with adequate mechanical power, this method of re-allocating machinery and man power makes use of men and equipment from aerodromes, etc., whose construction had been completed.

The usual statistical details so far as they are available are given in Table No. 10, page 32.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply. Samples of Milk taken during the course of delivery to the consumers have been submitted at regular intervals to the County Laboratory for examination as to cleanliness and keeping quality. The samples are submitted to a standardised methylene blue test to determine if the milk will be sufficiently fresh to be drinkable for some 24 hours after delivery to the consumer. The number of samples so submitted and the classification of the results were :

<i>Classification.</i>					<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
Good	...	...	...	...	76	63
Moderate	...	...	...	...	31	26
Bad	...	...	...	...	13	11
				Total	...	120

The results of the tests showed that 63% of samples conformed to the prescribed test for accredited milk and in general the results shewed a further improvement on the reports for 1943 when only 50% of samples were classified as good. The classification of the results is arbitrary and based on a County standard, since there are no prescribed tests for the bacteriological cleanliness and keeping quality of non-designated milk. Further details of the results of the tests are given in Table No. 11, page 33.

Food Premises. The Sanitary Inspector made the following visits to food premises :

Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	4
Grocery Stores	...	...	...	14
Fish Shops	...	...	...	5
Other food premises	...	...	...	12

Details of the unfit food surrendered is given in Table No. 12, page 33. The total weight of food (other than meat) found to be unfit was 14 cwts. as compared with 37 cwts. in 1943. The need for official certificates of condemnation for the replacement of unfit food has resulted in a complete ascertainment of any unfit food held in the shops in the town.

Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940. The Sanitary Inspector has continued to devote much of his time to the work of meat inspection at the Rushden Industrial Co-operative Society's slaughterhouse in Bedford Road, which is controlled by the Ministry of Food. This work of inspection is meticulously carried out and the completion of certificates for condemned meat and offals, which state precisely the diseased condition for which the meat etc., is condemned, has added additional detailed work to the Inspector. The Inspector made 591 visits to the slaughterhouse and inspected a total of 16,260 carcasses as compared with 512 visits and 16,584 carcasses inspected in 1943. In addition to condemning some 41 tons of meat and offals he condemned some 3 tons of canned and other preserved meats which were deposited at the slaughterhouse. This rigid control of the meat supply is one of the best public health measures which has been evolved during the war and its continuation in principle have much to commend it as a permanent function of a local authority health department. A summary of the work carried out by the Inspector and his assistant is given in Tables No. 13, page 34.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Small-pox. No cases were notified.

Scarlet fever. Twenty cases were notified during the year as compared with nineteen in 1943. The cases were of mild clinical type and no deaths occurred.

Diphtheria. One case was notified in a boy aged 5 years, who had not been immunised. Recovery took place. The causal organism was *C. diphtheriæ mitis*.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. This highly important branch of preventive medicine proceeded smoothly in accordance with the arrangements described in the Annual Reports of 1939-42. The work continues to be carried out by the County Council as the School and Maternity and Child Welfare Authority whilst in addition a number of children are immunised by private arrangement between the local medical practitioners and parents. The value of diphtheria immunisation throughout the country as a whole is shown by the following extract from the Summary Report of the Ministry of Health for the year ended 31st March, 1944. "In the two years, 1942-3, the annual rate of incidence of diphtheria amongst immunised children, based on the estimated time of exposure to risk, was rather more than a quarter of that amongst the non-immunised, whilst the mortality ratio was about one to twenty-three. It is estimated that approximately five out of six of the children notified as suffering from diphtheria during the same period and about twenty-nine out of thirty of those who died from it, were children who had not been given the protection of immunisation." All children should be immunised against diphtheria and educational measures should be directed to inform the parents of children of the advantages of immunisation in childhood. The infants born of mothers who have an immunity against diphtheria are relatively immune for the early months of life. This immunity to diphtheria diminishes rapidly so that by the age of six months few infants have any immunity against the disease. Subsequently children develop immunity approximately in proportion to the frequency of their contacts with persons who harbour the causal organism with or without exposure to persons who have clinically recognisable attacks of the disease. The production of immunity in this manner, which is the biological method, is rather a hit or miss phenomenon and too uncertain in its effects, since

there is no control as regards dosage of organisms and frequency of infection. The only known and proved method of protecting children against the ravages of diphtheria is by active immunisation which consists of two small injections of Alum Precipitated Toxoid given at an interval of some four weeks. Immunity is not fully developed for about three months. Children who have been immunised in infancy should be further protected by receiving a single reinforcing dose of prophylactic material on entrance to school.

It was estimated that 59% of children under five years and 81% of those between five and fifteen years in the town were considered immunised as at 31st December, 1944. These figures take no account of children immunised by private arrangement.

Measles. The year 1944 was not a measles year but 55 cases were notified in contrast to the 502 cases reported in 1943. The incidence was 4.16 per thousand of population as compared with 3.63 for England and Wales. No deaths were ascribed to this disease.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough). A total of 123 cases were notified as compared with 72 in 1943. The maximum incidence took place in the period May-July but no month was entirely free from notifications. Whilst in general the disease appeared to be of a mild type, one death in a child four months old was certified as whooping cough. The following are the details of the cases of measles and whooping cough notified during the quinquennium 1940-44.

Number of Cases Notified.						
		1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Measles	... ..	618	140	8	502	55
Whooping cough	...	22	119	42	72	123

Mumps (Infectious Parotitis). This acute specific infection is not notifiable. During the winter outbreaks took place in the infant schools where the attendance on occasion fell to a low level.

Cerebro-spinal fever. A male aged 48 years died from this infection in a hospital outside the district. The case was notified to the Medical Officer of Health of another local authority and the death transferred to the town by the Registrar-General.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Notifications received under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939, are transmitted forthwith to the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority. Only one case was notified in the town in 1944 and recovery took place. All cases of pyrexia occurring amongst parturient women belonging to the town are not necessarily notified locally. Women who develop puerperal pyrexia whilst in hospital outside the town are notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the hospital or nursing home is situate.

Pneumonia. Seventy-five cases of ‘pneumonia’ were notified in 1944 as compared with seventy-nine in 1943. This disease was certified as the primary cause of death in thirteen cases. The case morbidity per 1,000 of population was 4.95 as compared with that for England and Wales of 0.97.

Erysipelas. Seven cases were notified as compared with eight in the previous year. No deaths were ascribed to this disease.

Dysentery. Three cases of bacillary dysentery occurred at the L.C.C. Nursery School at Eastfields in June. The causal organism was *B. dysenteriae* (Sonne). The duration of the acute phase of the attack was some three days and recovery was rapid. The origin of the infection was sought for without success.

Closure of Schools. No schools were closed under the Elementary Education Provisional Code, 1922, Article 57.

Tuberculosis. No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis) during 1944.

There were seventeen new cases of tuberculosis notified as compared with eighteen during 1943. Ten cases (seven males and three females) had pulmonary infections and seven (two males and five females) had non-pulmonary lesions. Of the latter both males had hip-joint disease whilst all the females had glandular infections. One female pulmonary case died within two months of notification.

The number of new cases (all forms) notified during the quinquennium 1940-44, were as follows :

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
15	21	20	18	17

The mortality rate during the corresponding period was as follows :
1940-44.

Year	Tuberculosis—all forms			Rate per 1,000 of population	
	Male	Female	Total	Rushden	County
1940	8	5	13	0.78	0.58
1941	10	4	14	0.79	0.50
1942	4	4	8	0.49	0.49
1943	2	3	5	0.32	0.50
1944	4	7	11	0.72	

Mass Miniature Radiography. The anticipated survey of the Boot and Shoe industry in the town did not take place in 1944 as the radiography set was not available.

Tuberculosis After-Care. The Rushden Tuberculosis After-Care Committee has continued its exemplary work of assistance and education in the town. The work carried out in 1944 had as its particular objective the popularising of the mass radiography survey, whilst in addition, the usual social work has been carried out with enthusiasm. The tuberculous patient has in this committee real friends and advisors who are always willing to offer their help and assistance in the many social and domestic problems which confront the patient.

SECTION G.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Throughout the year I have given lectures at the meetings of various types of organisations on a variety of topics associated with positive health. In the main the lectures have been given to youth organisations where my experience has shown that there is an urgent and healthy demand for factual information on the social problems confronting youth at the present time. At some of the lectures to the youth organisations the interesting trial was made of co-education in a series of three lectures which treated the mental and physical hygienic aspects of life. I believe that these lectures were well received by both sexes and that co-education carried out at this particular age group will assist youths and young women to appreciate the emotional difficulties which confront the adolescent.

The following talks and lectures were given in 1944 :

<i>Month</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Approximate Attendance</i>
January	Youth Committee, Rushden.	Sex Education.	15
February	First Aid Post, Rushden.	Venereal Diseases in Wartime.	60
	Northamptonshire Branch of Sanitary Inspectors Association.	Food Poisoning.	40
	Rushden Youth Organisation.	Local and National Health.	70
March	Rushden Rotary Club.	Venereal Diseases in Wartime.	35
	Rushden Youth Committee.	Elementary Biology.	70
	Rochdale Club, Wellingborough.	Difficult and Defective Children.	100
	Rushden Youth Organisation.	Social Biology.	70
	Hackleton Special Constables.	Venereal Diseases.	20
April	Rushden Youth Organisation.	The Health Services.	80
	Rushden Youth Organisation.	Social Biology.	80
	Rushden Youth Organisation.	Social Diseases.	80
May	Irthlingborough Youth Organ'tion.	The Health Services.	90
	Irthlingborough Youth Organ'tion.	Social Biology.	90
	Irthlingborough Youth Organ'tion.	Social Diseases.	90
September	Girls Training Corps, Wellingborough.	The Health Services.	60
	Girls Training Corps, Wellingborough.	Social Biology.	60
	Girls Training Corps, Wellingborough.	Social Diseases.	60
	Midwives Union, Northampton.	The Prevention of Congenital Syphilis.	45

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1944.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	1	—	1
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	1	1
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	6	1	7
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	2	4
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M)	...	...	...	—	—	—
	uterus (F)	...	...	...	—	1	1
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	3	2	5
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	3	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	4	9	13
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	3	4
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	10	17	27
19.	Heart disease	...	...	...	34	39	73
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	—	1	1
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	1	5
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	5	13
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	3	1	4
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	1	1	2
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	1	1	2
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	2	2	4
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	...	...	...	2	1	3
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases	...	...	...	2	2	4
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	2	2	4
34.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	2	—	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	2	—	2
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	11	5	16
ALL CAUSES					102	100	202

TABLE No. 2.

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1944.

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1929	—	—	12	0.85	21	1.49	39	2.76	9	0.64
1930	1	0.08	7	0.49	11	0.78	38	2.71	16	1.14
1931	—	—	10	0.70	17	1.18	47	3.29	23	1.61
1932	1	0.07	10	0.70	10	0.70	48	3.37	18	1.26
1933	2	0.13	14	0.97	20	1.39	53	3.69	9	0.62
1934	1	0.07	10	0.69	22	1.52	81	5.62	9	0.62
1935	6	0.41	5	0.34	16	1.09	51	3.50	12	0.82
1936	3	0.20	9	0.61	18	1.22	66	4.47	12	0.81
1937	—	—	4	0.26	21	1.41	68	4.56	10	0.67
1938	—	—	10	0.66	23	1.52	69	4.57	7	0.46
1939	1	0.06	11	0.70	23	1.46	57	3.63	9	0.57
1940	3	0.17	10	0.60	32	1.92	78	4.69	23	1.38
1941	1	0.06	13	0.52	32	1.81	79	4.48	26	1.47
1942	1	0.06	7	0.43	28	1.72	72	4.42	13	0.80
1943	—	—	5	0.32	32	2.00	51	3.29	20	1.29
1944	4	0.26	7	0.46	22	1.45	101	6.66	22	1.45

TABLE No. 3.

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1897-1944.

Year	Estimated Population mid-year	Nett Births		Nett Deaths belonging to District			
		No.	Rate per 1,000	Under 1 year		At all Ages	
				No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1897	10,950	393	35.8	59	150.1	164	15.0
1898	12,000	443	36.9	85	184.0	192	16.0
1899	12,245	463	37.8	49	105.8	145	11.8
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1901	12,453	424	33.6	46	108.4	123	9.7
1902	12,961	407	31.4	50	122.8	133	10.2
1903	13,337	404	30.2	37	91.5	139	10.4
1904	13,713	387	28.2	46	118.8	162	11.8
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1906	14,190	351	24.7	40	113.9	122	8.5
1907	14,816	315	21.2	25	79.3	131	8.1
1908	15,192	310	20.4	35	112.9	122	8.0
1909	15,817	284	17.9	31	109.1	130	8.2
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
1911	13,377	281	21.0	29	103.2	130	9.7
1912	13,658	287	21.0	24	83.6	121	8.8
1913	13,752	237	17.2	19	80.1	118	8.7
1914	13,915	246	17.6	18	73.1	124	8.9
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1916	13,531*	256	17.3	15	58.5	138	10.1
1917	12,315*	200	14.5	12	60.0	123	9.9
	13,728†						
	14,722†						
1918	12,900*	158	12.7	8	43.2	129	10.0
	14,454†						
1919	13,850*	206	14.2	27	131.0	153	11.0
	14,428†						
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1921	13,720	273	19.8	22	80.5	147	10.7
1922	13,740	247	17.9	19	76.9	132	9.6
1923	13,790	243	17.6	12	49.3	131	9.4
1924	13,750	198	14.4	11	55.5	135	9.8
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1926	13,520	208	15.3	6	28.8	131	9.7
1927	13,550	174	12.8	10	57.4	139	10.2
1928	13,650	174	12.0	10	57.4	146	10.6
1929	14,020	174	12.4	9	51.7	127	9.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1931	14,280	161	11.3	8	49.7	154	10.8
1932	14,240	170	11.9	10	58.8	142	9.9
1933	14,370	168	11.7	7	47.6	159	11.1
1934	14,410	161	11.2	8	49.7	180	12.5
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
1936	14,740	182	12.3	5	27.5	167	11.3
1937	14,890	191	12.9	6	31.4	155	10.4
1938	15,090	192	12.7	6	31.3	160	10.6
1939	15,690*	225	14.2	6	26.7	152	9.7
	15,200†						
1940	16,580	200	12.4	16	77.7	233	14.1
1941	17,600	193	10.9	11	54.1	185	10.5
1942	16,250	251	15.5	6	23.9	163	10.0
1943	15,490	281	18.1	8	28.4	172	11.1
1944	15,140	278	18.4	15	53.9	202	13.3

(*) Estimated population for calculation of Birth Rates.

(†) Estimated population for calculation of Death Rates.

TABLE No. 4.

**COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS
AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH.
1934-44.**

Year	Stillbirths per 1,000.		Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births.	Male births per 1,000 live female births.
	Population of all ages.	Total births (live and still).		
1934	0.55	47.32	49.69	1038
1935	0.76	58.83	39.77	934
1936	0.27	21.51	54.94	1166
1937	0.27	20.51	26.18	1010
1938	0.26	20.41	52.30	1087
1939	0.51	34.34	48.89	1008
1940	0.42	33.89	25.00	923
1941	0.51	44.54	56.99	1144
1942	0.31	19.54	75.70	1002
1943	0.89	47.45	53.46	1006
1944	0.55	32.05	133.09	1122

TABLE No. 5.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.

Causes of Death		Age in Weeks					Total
		—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	
I.	Congenital malformations ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
II.	Diseases of Early Infancy—						
	Congenital debility and icterus	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Premature birth ...	4	—	1	—	—	5
	Injury at birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Atelectasis ...	2	—	—	—	—	2
	Others ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
III.	Diseases of Respiratory system	—	—	—	—	3	2
IV.	Diseases of Digestive system ...	—	—	—	—	2	2
V.	Diseases of Nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
VI.	Tuberculous diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII.	Infectious diseases ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
VIII.	Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
IX.	Overlaying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
X.	Other Violence ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
XI.	All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...		6	—	1	—	8	15

TABLE No. 6.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	96
Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	82
Dairies inspected	...	...	...	...	7
Milkshops inspected	...	...	...	...	1
Schools inspected	...	...	...	...	2
Proposed petrol store inspected	...	...	...	...	1
Visits during construction of petrol stores	...	...	...	...	4
Premises for Voluntary Improvement inspected	...	...	...	...	7
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	33
Secondary inspections	...	...	...	...	61

Infectious Diseases, etc., Inspections.

Scarlet-Fever	...	...	...	...	18
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	2

TABLE No. 7.

DISINFECTIONS, Etc.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ETC.

Rooms.

Scarlet-Fever	...	...	...	...	21
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	7
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	55

Articles.

Beds	...	...	...	...	83
Pillows and bolsters	...	...	...	...	179
Articles of bedding	...	...	...	...	238
Articles of wearing apparel	...	...	...	...	75
Household articles	...	...	...	...	12
Books	...	...	...	...	18

Articles destroyed.

Beds	...	...	...	...	17
Pillows and bolsters	...	...	...	...	23
Bedding-sundry	...	...	...	...	6
Wearing apparel	...	...	...	...	35

CIVIL DEFENCE, FIRE WATCHING, Etc.

Articles.

Beds	...	...	...	...	19
Blankets	...	...	...	...	161
Pillows	...	...	...	...	16

SCABIES AND OTHER INFESTATIONS.

Articles.

Beds	...	...	...	...	12
Pillows and bolsters	...	...	...	...	25
Bedding-sundry	45
Wearing apparel	181

DISINFESTATIONS FROM VERMIN.

Rooms	6
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TABLE No. 8.

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR.

External walls repaired	2
Internal walls repaired	19
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
Rain water gutters repaired or refixed	...	...	...	...	6
Rain water pipes repaired or refixed	...	...	...	...	2
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Windows formed to open	...	...	...	...	1
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Yards repaved	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms stripped, repaired and distempered	...	...	...	...	12
Passages and staircases repaired and distempered	...	...	...	...	1
Handrails fixed	...	...	...	...	1
Doors of rooms repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Wood floors repaired	...	...	...	...	4
New wood floors constructed	...	...	...	...	7
Ceilings repaired...	...	...	...	...	7
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	3
Obstructions removed from drains	...	...	...	...	24
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	1
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Dampness to walls of rooms prevented	...	...	...	...	5
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Water service pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Water-closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	15
New pans fixed in water-closets	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	136
Dangerous buildings demolished	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous buildings made safe	...	...	...	...	1
Quarried floors repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	2

TABLE No. 9.

VOLUNTARY IMPROVEMENTS FOR 1944.

Outhouses converted into bathrooms	...	...	...	...	1
Pedestal water-closet pans and flushing cisterns erected	...	...	...	...	2
Lavatory basins fixed	...	...	...	...	2
Baths fixed	...	...	...	...	3
Inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	5
Drains constructed	...	...	...	...	8
Internal water-closets constructed	...	...	...	...	2
Soil and ventilating pipes erected	...	...	...	...	4
Gullies constructed	...	...	...	...	5
Bedrooms converted into bathrooms	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Earth closets removed and converted to water-closets	...	...	...	...	1
Connections made to public sewer	1

RATS AND MICE (DESTR.) ACT.

Premises cleared of rats	13
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TABLE No. 10.

HOUSING.**1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year—**

1.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	93
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	140
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Reg. 1925/32	...	...	...	43
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	89
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...				—
4.		Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under preceding (subhead) not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation				76

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice—

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or Officers—

Housing Act	...	...	...	...	42
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	33

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—*A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
2.		Dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notice—					—
	(a)	By owners	...	...	...	...	—
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	—
2.		Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—				—
	(a)	By owners	...	...	...	—
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	—

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of Demolition Order	...	—
		Dwelling-houses demolished	...	—

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1.	Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	—
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	...			—

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding—

(a)	1.	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded	...	...	—
	2.	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	—
	3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	—
(b)		Number of cases of overcrowding reported	...	...	—
(c)	1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	...	...	—
	2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	—

TABLE No. 11.

**SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS
OF CLEANLINESS.**

<i>Month.</i>			<i>No.</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Mod.</i>	<i>Bad</i>
January	...	...	12	8	3	1
February	...	...	12	9	3	—
March	...	...	12	6	5	1
April	...	...	12	10	1	1
May	...	...	12	8	2	2
June	...	...	12	7	3	2
July	...	...	6	3	2	1
August	...	...	6	—	4	2
September	...	...	12	10	—	2
October	...	...	12	6	5	1
November	...	...	12	9	3	—
			120	76	31	13

TABLE No. 12.

FOODS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Tins of canned pork luncheon meat	...	...	41
Tins of canned stewed steak	...	...	4
Tins of canned sausage meat	...	...	4
Tins of canned fish	...	...	148
Tins of canned soup	...	...	3
Tins of canned vegetables	...	...	59
Tins of canned milk	...	...	35
Tins of canned fruit	...	...	1
Tins of canned jam	...	...	2
Boxes of wet fish	...	...	16
Bags of mussels	...	...	1
Forequarters of frozen pork	...	...
Hams	...	...	2
Quantities of sausages	...	...	3
Quantities of pork	...	...	8
Quantities of cake and pudding mixture	...	...	103
Bag of spaghetti	...	...	1
Bag of macaroni	...	...	1
Bag of rice	...	...	1
Packets ground ginger	...	...	15
Tins of mustard	...	...	50
Bottles mixed pickles	...	...	47
Quantities of tomatoes	...	...	1
Total weight	...	14cwts. 3qrs. 2½lbs.	

TABLE No. 13.

CARCASES INSPECTED.

Oxen	...	...	...	...	...	2,848
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	799
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	11,983
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	630
Total					...	16,260

Number of visits to the Abattoir ... 591
 Total weight of meat found unfit—40tons 19cwts. 1qr. 20½lbs.
 Also condemned at the Abattoir—

			<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
A quantity of canned corned beef weighing	...	...	2	16	1	2
A quantity of canned mutton weighing	...	...				18
A quantity of frozen pork trimmings	...	...		1	2	6
A quantity of bagged frozen pork				1	3	21
40 boxes of frozen pork livers	...			8	2	20
5 tins of stewed steak	...					15
15 hams	...	...			3	4
Total weight			3	9	2	2

TABLE No. 14.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.**AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.**

<i>Age Periods</i>			<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
— 6 months	...		2	—	4	4
—12 "	...		1	3	3	3
—18 "	...		—	—	4	4
— 2 years	...		1	5	9	10
—2½ "	...		—	—	2	3
— 3 "	...		8	2	4	11
— 4 "	...		10	7	4	11
— 5 "	...		3	1	17	9
—10 "	...		—	3	10	10
—15 "	...		1	—	—	—
15 „+	...		1	7	—	1
ALL AGES	...	...	27	28	57	66
TOTALS	...	...	55		123	

TABLE No. 15.

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT AND ENGLAND AND WALES. 1944.

				<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Rushden</i>
Live Births	...	...	...	17.60	18.36
Stillbirths	...	...	...	0.50	0.55
Deaths					
All Causes	...	...	...	11.60	13.34
Typhoid	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.02	0.00
Influenza	...	...	...	0.12	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	0.01	0.00
Deaths under one year	...	...	...	46.00	53.88
Notifications.					
Typhoid	...	...	...	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	0.05	0.00
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	2.40	1.32
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2.49	8.12
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.58	0.06
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.29	0.46
Measles	...	...	...	4.16	3.63
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.97	4.95

TABLE No. 16.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis). 1944.

<i>Disease</i>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	4	4	1	—	—	2	4	1	2	2	—	—	20
Puerperal pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ...	11	11	9	8	6	5	6	3	6	3	2	5	75
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	7
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Measles ...	—	36	1	—	3	4	4	—	1	3	—	3	55
Whooping cough	4	3	3	12	20	21	19	10	6	5	9	11	123
TOTALS ...	21	55	14	21	29	33	36	14	15	14	12	20	284

TABLE No. 17.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(Other than Tuberculosis). 1944.

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	1	—	5	5	5	—	3	1	—	—	20	3	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	5	7	5	3	2	5	1	4	9	12	6	16	75	—	13
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	3	7	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—
Measles ...	6	6	10	17	4	3	1	8	—	—	—	—	55	—	—
Whooping cough	14	27	20	15	26	21	1	—	—	—	—	—	123	—	1
TOTALS ...	25	40	37	36	37	34	8	12	15	15	6	19	284	3	14

TABLE No. 18.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

<i>Age Periods</i>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—25	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	—
—35	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	1
—45	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
—55	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	3	2	5	6	1	2	2

